

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system ~~having a fuel cell, said fuel cell system comprising:~~

a fuel cell;

a hydrogen storage tank that is supplied with hydrogen under a predetermined hydrogen pressure and contains a hydrogen absorbing material that includes at least a hydrogen storage alloy, ~~said hydrogen storage alloy having a temperature~~ of the hydrogen storage alloy at which the predetermined hydrogen pressure becomes an equilibrium pressure being higher than a temperature of said fuel cell ~~in a~~ during steady operation;

a refrigerant channel that circulates refrigerant between said fuel cell and said hydrogen storage tank; and

a heat exchange module that cools down ~~said~~ refrigerant that has passed through said fuel cell and/or said hydrogen storage tank.

2. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 1, wherein said refrigerant channel or a part of ~~the said~~ refrigerant channel ~~is configured to circulate said~~ circulates refrigerant through said fuel cell, said hydrogen storage tank, and said heat exchange module in ~~this~~ that order.

3. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 1, wherein the temperature at which the predetermined hydrogen pressure becomes an equilibrium pressure is an equilibrium temperature at which hydrogen absorption and hydrogen release of the hydrogen storage alloy ~~come reach~~ equilibrium in ~~with~~ at the predetermined hydrogen pressure.

4. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a refrigerant temperature adjustment module that adjusts a temperature of ~~said~~ the refrigerant such that ~~said-refrigerant that is discharged~~ from said heat exchange module ~~may have~~ has an approximately constant temperature regardless of an amount of electric power generation in said fuel cell and regardless of whether said hydrogen storage tank is in a state of hydrogen storing or hydrogen releasing.

5. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 4, wherein said refrigerant temperature adjustment module includes a refrigerant flow rate adjustment module that adjusts a flow rate of ~~said-refrigerant~~ that flows through said refrigerant channel.

6. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 5, wherein said heat exchange module has a fan for cooling ~~said-refrigerant; the refrigerant,~~ and said refrigerant temperature adjustment module includes said fan.

7. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell system according to Claim 1, wherein said refrigerant channel includes:

a first refrigerant channel that introduces ~~said-refrigerant~~ such that ~~said-the~~ refrigerant passes through said hydrogen storage tank after passing through said fuel cell; and

a second refrigerant channel that is divergent from said first refrigerant channel and introduces ~~said-refrigerant~~ such that ~~said-the~~ refrigerant passes through said hydrogen storage tank without passing through said fuel cell,

wherein said fuel cell system further comprises a flow rate distribution control module that controls a flow rate of ~~said-refrigerant~~ that passes through said first refrigerant channel and a flow rate of ~~said-refrigerant~~ that passes through said second refrigerant channel.

8. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 1, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of storing hydrogen in a hydrogen storage tank having a hydrogen absorbing material that contains at least a hydrogen storage alloy, wherein the hydrogen absorbing material absorbs hydrogen to be supplied to a fuel cell, said method comprising:

supplying hydrogen to ~~said the~~ hydrogen storage tank under a predetermined hydrogen pressure, wherein the predetermined hydrogen pressure is a pressure ~~such that at~~ which a temperature of said hydrogen absorbing material when the hydrogen pressure is an equilibrium pressure in ~~said the~~ hydrogen storage tank is higher than a temperature of ~~said the~~ fuel cell ~~in a~~ during steady operation;

~~along with the operation of hydrogen supply in said~~ supplying hydrogen, circulating refrigerant ~~in through~~ a refrigerant channel that ~~is configured to be passable through said~~ passes between the fuel cell and ~~said the~~ hydrogen storage tank; and

cooling ~~said~~ refrigerant that has passed through ~~said the~~ fuel cell and/or ~~said the~~ hydrogen storage tank by means of a heat exchange module that exchanges heat with ~~said the~~ refrigerant.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 9, wherein the temperature of ~~said the~~ hydrogen absorbing material when the hydrogen pressure is the equilibrium pressure is an equilibrium temperature at which hydrogen absorption and hydrogen release ~~of by~~ the hydrogen storage alloy ~~come reach~~ equilibrium in with hydrogen being supplied ~~with at~~ the predetermined hydrogen pressure.

11. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 2, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

12. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 3, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

13. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 4, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

14. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 5, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

15. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 6, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.

16. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell system according to claim 7, wherein said fuel cell comprises a proton-exchange membrane fuel cell.